IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.   (currently amended) A method of providing liquidity utilizing a liquidity vehicle, comprising:

(a)   at least one investment fund wanting to receive liquidity services to meet financial obligations resulting from the redemption of at least one share of the at least one investment fund registering with the liquidity vehicle;

(b)   prompting at least one registered investment fund having a net share outflow to offer shares to the liquidity vehicle, wherein the net share outflow comprises the registered investment fund having an excess number of shares being redeemed, excluding shares redeemed by the liquidity vehicle, in comparison to a number of shares being purchased, excluding shares purchased by the liquidity vehicle, over a given period of time;

(c)   the liquidity vehicle purchasing at least one offered share of the at least one registered investment fund with proceeds of the purchase going to the at least one registered investment fund; and

(d)   holding the at least one purchased share in the liquidity vehicle for a period of time.

2.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one registered investment fund is prompted by the liquidity vehicle in operation (b).

3.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one registered investment fund is prompted by a third party in operation (b).

4.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

(e)   redeeming at least one of the at least one purchased share from the at least one registered investment fund.

5.   (previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the at least one offered share is purchased in operation (c) prior to a next trading day after an occurrence of an outflow of shares of the same at least one registered investment fund.

6.   (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein operation (e) is performed prior to a next trading day following an occurrence of an inflow of shares of the same at least one registered investment fund.

7.   (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein operation (e) is performed within five trading days of an occurrence of an inflow of shares of the same at least one registered investment fund on a trading day.

8.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a fee is charged by the liquidity vehicle in connection with the purchase of the at least one offered share in operation (c).

9   (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the fee is determined through an auction.

10.   (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the fee is determined through a Dutch auction.

11.   (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the fee is determined by the liquidity vehicle.

12.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a fee is charged by an entity other than the liquidity vehicle in connection with the purchase of the at least one offered share in operation (c).

13.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the period of time for holding the at least one purchased share in operation (d) does not exceed a period between the purchase of the at least one share in operation (c) by the liquidity vehicle and a date by which the at least one registered investment fund has experienced a net share inflow following the purchase equal to at least the number of shares purchased by the liquidity vehicle in operation (c).

14.   (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the period of time for holding the at least one purchased share in operation (d) does not exceed a predetermined number of days more than a period between the purchase of the at least one share in operation (c) by the liquidity vehicle and a date by which the at least one registered investment fund has experienced a net share inflow following the purchase equal to at least the number of shares purchased by the liquidity vehicle in operation (c).

15.   (currently amended) A system for providing liquidity utilizing a liquidity vehicle, comprising:

      a processor;

      a memory in communication with said processor;

      a display in communication with said processor; and

      an input device in communication with said processor,

      wherein the processor stores in the memory registration information received via the input device from at least one investment fund wanting to receive liquidity services

to meet financial obligations resulting from the redemption of at least one share of the at least one investment fund from the liquidity vehicle;

wherein said processor prompts at least one registered investment fund having a net share outflow to offer shares to the liquidity vehicle, wherein the net share outflow comprises the registered investment fund having an excess number of shares being redeemed, excluding shares redeemed by the liquidity vehicle, in comparison to a number of shares being purchased, excluding shares purchased by the liquidity vehicle, over a given period of time;

wherein said processor causes at least one offered share of the at least one registered investment fund to be purchased by the liquidity vehicle with proceeds of the purchase going to the at least one investment fund; and

wherein said processor causes the at least one purchased share in the liquidity vehicle to be held for a period of time.

16.   (currently amended) A system for providing liquidity utilizing a liquidity vehicle, comprising:

means for registering with the liquidity vehicle at least one investment fund wanting to receive liquidity services to meet financial obligations resulting from the redemption of at least one share of the at least one investment fund;

means for prompting at least one registered investment fund having a net share outflow to offer shares to the liquidity vehicle, wherein the net share outflow comprises the registered investment fund having an excess number of shares being redeemed, excluding shares redeemed by the liquidity vehicle, in comparison to a number of

shares being purchased, excluding shares purchased by the liquidity vehicle, over a given period of time;

means for purchasing by the liquidity vehicle at least one offered share of the at least one registered investment fund with proceeds of the purchase going to the at least one registered investment fund; and

means for holding the at least one purchased share in the liquidity vehicle for a period of time.

17.   (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing operations of providing liquidity utilizing a liquidity vehicle comprising:

(a)   registering with the liquidity vehicle at least one investment fund wanting to receive liquidity services to meet financial obligations resulting from the redemption of at least one share of the at least one investment fund;

(b)   prompting at least one registered investment fund having a net share outflow to offer shares to the liquidity vehicle, wherein the net share outflow comprises the registered investment fund having an excess number of shares being redeemed, excluding shares redeemed by the liquidity vehicle, in comparison to a number of shares being purchased, excluding shares purchased by the liquidity vehicle, over a given period of time;

(c)   the liquidity vehicle purchasing at least one offered share of the at least one registered investment fund with the proceeds of the purchase going to the at least one registered investment fund; and

(d)   holding the at least one purchased share in the liquidity vehicle for a period of time.

18.   (previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein a fee is charged by the liquidity vehicle in connection with the purchase of the at least one offered share, wherein the fee is determined through an auction.

19.   (previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the period of time for holding the at least one purchased share does not exceed a period between the purchase of the at least one share by the liquidity vehicle and a date by which the at least one registered investment fund has experienced a net share inflow following the purchase equal to at least the number of shares purchased by the liquidity vehicle.

20.   (previously presented) The system of claim 16, further comprising:

means for performing an auction to determine a fee to be charged by the liquidity vehicle in connection with the purchase of the at least one offered share.

21.   (currently amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the period of time for holding the at least one purchased share does not exceed a period between the purchase of <u>the at least one share by the liquidity vehicle and a date by which</u> the at least one registered investment fund has experienced a net share inflow following the purchase equal to at least the number of shares purchased by the liquidity vehicle.

22.   (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein a fee is charged by the liquidity vehicle in connection with the purchase of the at least one offered share, wherein the fee is determined through an auction.

23.   (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the period of time for holding the at least one purchased share does not exceed a period

between the purchase of the at least one share by the liquidity vehicle and a date by

which the at least one registered investment fund has experienced a net share inflow

following the purchased equal to at least the number of shares purchased by the

liquidity vehicle.